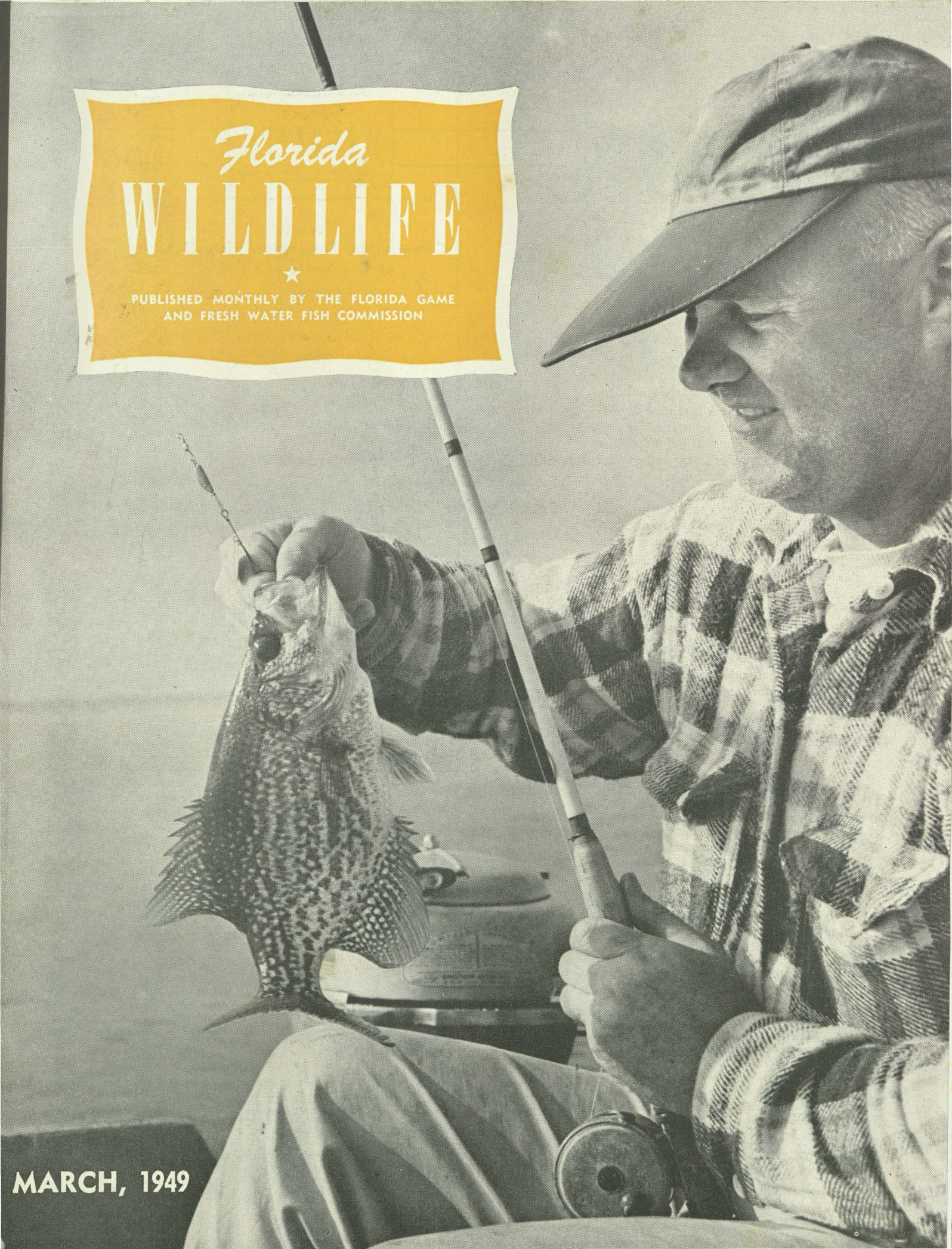
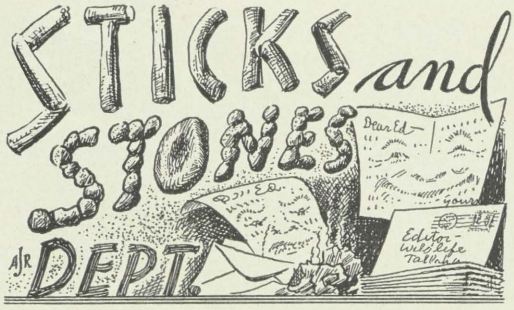


Florida WILDLIFE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

MARCH, 1949



GAME COMMISSIONER SPEAKS

Dear Sir:

I have put off this letter long enough; for a long time I have wanted to write congratulating you on the splendid publication you put out under the title *Florida Wildlife.*

I think it is by far the best state department publication that comes across my desk, both for the soundness of its articles technically, and the readability and popular style in which such technical information is cast. I find that among the various state publications it is the only one that gets read thoroughly by myself, members of my family and a multitude of friends that visit us.

I think you and the men responsible for this publication deserve a great deal of credit, for it is the type of thing that we miss a great deal in Southern conservation. It puts across to the sportsmen and the public the technical information they should know to be able to understand why Game Commissions and other conservation agencies have to make the kind of decisions they sometimes make.

E. V. KOMAREK
Commissioner
Georgia Game and Fish Commission

IMPROVING WITH AGE

Dear Sir:

Congratulations on recent issue of *Florida Wildlife.* The publication seems to improve with each issue.

I have been sharing my copies with a neighbor and he has enjoyed them very much. Unfortunately, this neighbor has been compelled to move to North Carolina. If it is consistent to ask that his name be added to your mailing list, I know he will thoroughly appreciate the favor.

C. F. EVANS
Montverde, Florida

(The favor is granted. Your friend is now receiving FLORIDA WILDLIFE at his new home in North Carolina.—ED.)

The Cover — *The successful perch fisherman is Carl M. Vick of Jacksonville*—**Photo by C. H. Anderson.**

VOL. 2, NO. 10

Florida WILDLIFE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

MARCH, 1949

For the Conservation, Restoration, Protection, of Our Game and Fish

★

Published monthly by the
FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
Tallahassee, Florida

★

In This Issue:

Running Sores On Our Land ..... by Bill Wolfe 3
Foxhound—Jack-of-all-trades ..... by Fred W. Jones 6
Backstage at a Wildlife Exhibit ..... by Mildred Curtis 8
Orange Lake and Lochloosa ..... by C. H. Anderson 10

★

DEPARTMENTS

STICKS AND STONES 2
CLUBS 16
FEDERATION NOTES 17
THEY'RE BITING HERE 18

★

COMMISSIONERS

L. G. MORRIS, Chairman ..... Monticello
CECIL M. WEBB, First District ..... Tampa
MILTON H. BAXLEY, Second District ..... Gainesville
J. W. CORBETT, Fourth District ..... Ft. Pierce
LAWRENCE ROGERS, Fifth District ..... Kissimmee

★

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

BEN C. MORGAN
Director

COLEMAN NEWMAN
Assistant Director

O. EARL FRYE
Pittman-Robertson Co-ordinator

WILLIAM W. WEEKS
Director, Information-Education

DR. I. N. KENNEDY
Administrator of Public Relations

JOHN F. DeQUINE
Chief Fisheries Biologist

HAYS LEWIS
Attorney

BART PEADEN
Auditor

★

WILLIAM W. WEEKS, Editor

BILL SNYDER
Associate Editor

C. H. ANDERSON
Picture Editor

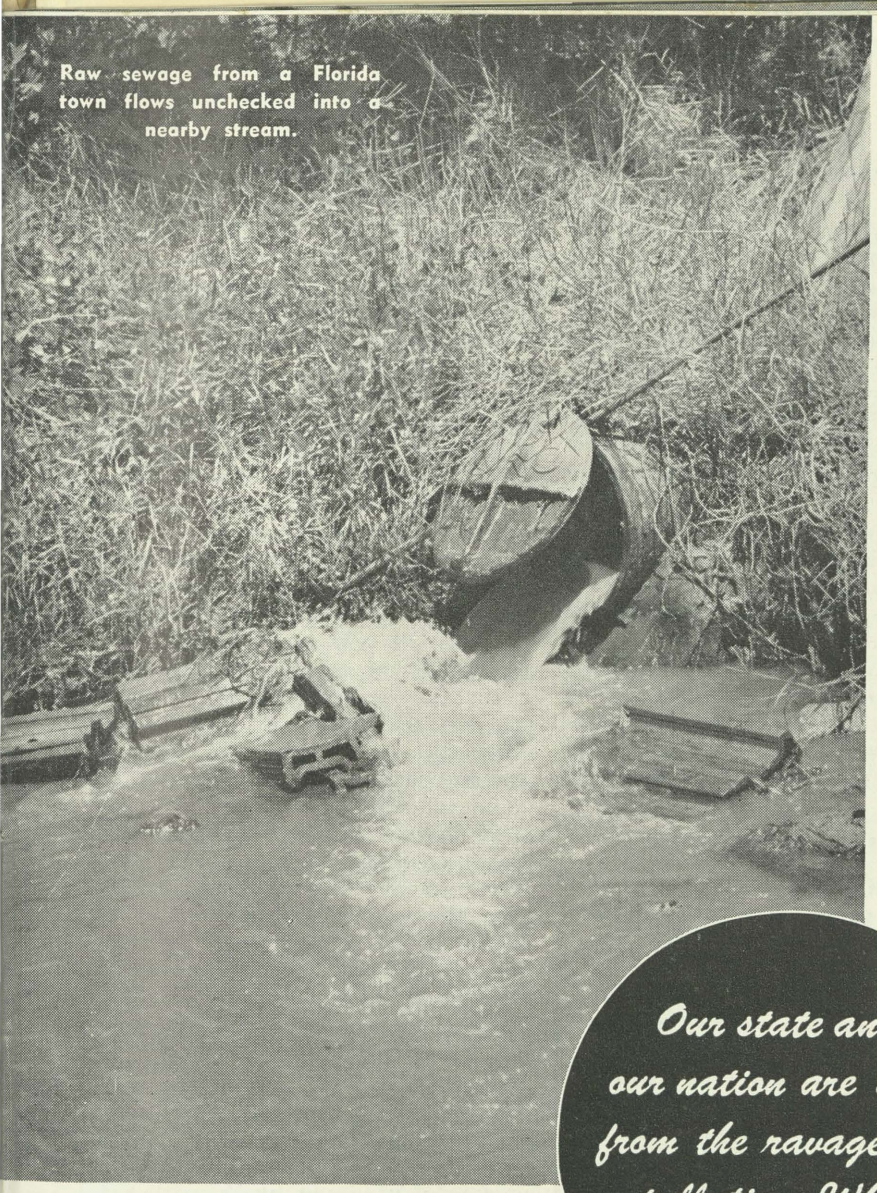
★

Regular copies of Florida Wildlife will be mailed free on request to all schools, public libraries, museums, newspapers, magazines, and youth, civic and conservation groups.

Editorial contributions are welcomed, and all photographs will be returned after use. Manuscrips, news notes, and photographs should be addressed to Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla. Any changes of address should be reported promptly.

Permission to reprint any material in this publication is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given. Copies of reprints would be appreciated.

Entered as Second Class Matter Nov. 8, 1947 at the Post Office at Tallahasse, Fla., Under the Act of Aug. 24, 1912.



Raw sewage from a Florida town flows unchecked into a nearby stream.

RUNNING SORES on our LAND

Our state and our nation are sick from the ravages of pollution. What is the cure?

by Bill Wolfe

THIS is a sick land. It is too young to realize it, and its body is so vast that it cannot feel its illness except as local pains, but the poison of decay is in it. Its huge framework sprawls across the continent, and all of it is sore. Its squat and chunky torso between the Rockies and the Appalachians is festering. Its good right arm in the industrial Northeast is scabrous; its strong left arm in the Pacific Northwest is rankling. Its thighs and legs in the new South and the Southwest are suppurating. It has been poisoned by the very people it nurtures so generously.

They have thrust a thousand septic spears into its body. They have scratched it with innumerable pin points of infection. They have put great sores on it. An outside enemy invading the land could not harm it fundamentally much more than its own people harm it right now.

Water is to the land as blood is to the human body, and the life streams of this nation are as poisoned arteries. This is not an alarmist statement. It's a statement of fact. In six months of travel preparing the preceding six articles, I have found that the only places where water pollution does not exist are the places which have no water at all, or where human beings do not live and work. It is an unhappy commentary upon our civilization that only our arid deserts and the high headwaters of tiny streams are free from pollution.

All other waters are fouled. There are no decent English terms to describe adequately stream conditions observed over the entire nation. To say that pus and corruption run through the water veins of the land may be an ugly way to put it; but it is a weak and inexpressive phrase to picture the situation. The average modern farmer actually keeps his hogs in pens that are cleaner than most of our waterways. Yet we must depend upon those waterways for our very life.

Kipling wrote a poem in which primitive man was inclined to blame God for all his ills. Man ate blubber from a putrid whale, and cried out to God about his stomach-ache. He built his latrine above his drinking water, and then, when dysentery gripped his bowels, he groaned: "Oh, Lord, why hast thou afflicted me?"

Modern man in America is inclined to do the same thing; to blame all his water-borne evils on anything except himself. The two most common questions I encountered across and up and down the nation were these: "Where is pollution worst?" and "Who or what causes the worst pollution, and who is responsible for it?" The polite answers were that pollution undoubtedly is

(Several months ago the author, Bill Wolfe, began a series of articles in SPORTS AFIELD on the nation's pollution problem. In this, the concluding piece, he sums up his shocking array of evidence and recommends a possible course of action. The article originally appeared in the March issue of SPORTS AFIELD.—Ed.)

worst in the heavily settled great industrial section from the Great Lakes east to New Jersey and up through New York and New England, that cities cause the greatest health hazard, and that industries of all kinds are most fatal to aquatic life and do the most damage to property. The correct answer, however, to the first question is: "Pollution is worst right here where you are now, wherever that may be, because it affects you immediately and personally. As far as you are concerned, there can be no worse pollution than that which exists at your doorstep."

And the right reply to who is responsible for pollution is: "You " The individual is to blame because the towns, cities, states and the nation are only extensions of the individual. Public apathy, indifference and a don't-give-a-damn attitude permit pollution and the individual who points a condemning finger at industries or municipalities is only pointing a finger at himself.

CERTAIN conclusions inevitably were drawn in this nationwide survey. Here they are:

1. There is no possibility of most of our streams ever returning to their original natural state. The minority of rabid antipollutionists who still insist on pristine purity never will get far. If industry and cities are to use water at all, they cannot return it to the streams completely pure no matter how much treatment it gets. But they can take out the great bulk of objectionable matter, and give back the water so that it will support aquatic life, be reasonably fit for drinking and industrial use downstream, and for recreational purposes.

2. Industry, in our industrial civilization, must have the use of our water resources. It is entitled to this as much as any individual sportsman—more so, in fact, in the last analysis, because it puts pay checks in the pockets of a majority of our citizens, and pay checks put food on the table and shoes on baby's feet. And industry's products are needed by all of us. By industry, throughout this survey, is meant all manufacturing enterprises—mining, canneries, tanneries, dairy plants, breweries, etc. There can be no quarrel with industry's *use* of water—but there is a quarrel with industry's abuse of water. It has no more right to foul public water than it has to poison its products which are sold to the public.

3. Two things only are necessary to clean up pollution. One is general public support of basic antipollution programs, local, state and national, and the other is money. There are no serious technical obstacles to remedying almost any kind of pollution; therefore, if public backing and money are secured, pollution can be eliminated. However, the individual will have to pay for its elimination, if not directly then indirectly. He will have to pay through city, State or Federal taxes, perhaps all three. He will have to pay in slightly increased cost of goods. He will have to pay in slightly higher rent. Municipalities must go to the voters for money to install disposal systems, and industries will necessarily include the costs of treament in their product prices. (Efficient treatment, however, often yields a profit.) Some small communities and some small industries cannot possibly afford to treat their wastes. They will have to be helped with State or Federal money.

4. Water pollution is a crime against society, and it must be erased, else we cannot consider ourselves a civilized people, or a healthy one. It is criminal knowingly to endanger public health with sewage, so to dispose of corrosive acids that they destroy bridges, piers, boats, engines and turbines. It is criminal when pollution robs a nation of its shellfish foods and its commercial fish supplies. It is criminal when it ruins land, poisons sub-surface drinking water, and raises an offensive stench across the country. It is criminal when it steals from the public its sports fishing, boating, bathing and other priceless recreational uses of water. And, as with all other crime, it is cheaper to prevent it than it is to endure it.

A LOCAL PROBLEM

Though the scope of this article is national, all its shocking evidence and all its grim warnings could well apply to Florida. Pollution has grown to be one of our greatest problems. It has destroyed countless shellfish beds and is taking its toll of sports fishing, but worse still it presents a creeping threat to the health of our state. As the author so sensibly points out, two things only are needed to clean up pollution—public support of antipollution programs, and the willingness to pay for them. It's up to Florida to supply both.—EDITOR.

5. Sportsmen form the largest single public group actively interested in remedial measures today. Unfortunately, these same sportsmen who so clearly see the harm done by pollution all too often hurt the cause of antipollution more than they help it. Reformers, incensed at an evil, are inclined to go off without knowing all their facts. Sportsmen are apt to insist on an immediate end to pollution that often has been two centuries in forming and can't possibly be cured in a year. Sportsmen tend to concentrate their arguments on the harm pollution does to fish and fishing. The general public doesn't care whether your fishing is any good or not, though it is becoming much concerned about resource conservation in general. The public still must be reached mainly through its health or its pocketbook. Sportsmen as a whole have not made the most of the vital health argument.

6. Selfish motives, I'm certain, will bring about over-all pollution abatement faster than anything else. By a selfish motive I mean the possibility of profit. The persons who are working hardest today to fight pollution are those who will make money from their efforts. There's nothing wrong with this. It's perfectly legimate, and I'm glad to see it. If you want help in an antipollution movement, go to the profit-makers—the engineers who will draw up plans for the disposal system, the construction company that hopes to build it, the contractors who will help, the corporations that will supply the materials and machinery —and, yes, even the politicians who might dip into the gravy bowl. Antipollution construction is big business, and has powerful business interests behind it. A big recent influence in shaping the public mind toward pollution abatement has been a motion picture called *Clean Waters,* prepared and distributed by General Electric. By mere coincidence, no doubt, General Electric stands to profit from disposal-plant installations; but the films stands out in the antipollution fight, nevertheless, because it clearly shows the *general* public what pollution abatement means to it.

7. Pollution in main drainage channels shared by two or more states must be made a clear-cut Federal matter. When it is theoretically possible for a person living in Montana to spread his typhoid fever to an individual in New Orleans by way of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, then pollution ceases to be of concern to one state only. The new Federal pollution act is only an entering wedge. I found compacts between states ineffective except in a few cases.

8. I'm convinced that some of our worst pollution will be cleared up in the next 10 years, and that our streams should be immensely improved within 20 years. Any time schedule shorter than that is just visionary. Scarcity and the high cost of labor and materials are holding back scheduled construction today; and also are used as an alibi by laggard and unwilling cities and industries.

IN THIS roundup, the sources of pollution will be dealt with first, and then the remedies will be discussed. Pollution from municipal sewage comes first; then wastes from factories and mills, from mining, canning, dairying, brewing and so on; then pollution of irrigation waters, plus various miscellaneous conditions.

In the past, the only progress in the

prevention of pollution was made through the health departments—state and city. Of recent years, a new concept has appeared—that clean water is essential also to industry, for the support of aquatic and allied land life, for the happiness and pleasure of the individual, and even for esthetic reasons. Nevertheless, health considerations come first. It is the only angle to pollution that can yet be understood by the average individual. And, unhappily, he can understand it solely as it applies to the drinking water he draws from his own faucet, or the water in which he swims. He won't consider the fellow downstream, whose drinking and recreation water he dirties.

Under the right circumstances, a water-borne disease can spread like wildfire down a river chain, leaping from city to city. This does not happen often, thanks entirely to the marvelous efficiency of sanitary engineers, who usually can take raw sewage and turn it into sterile (if not palatable) drinking water; but it occurs frequently enough to underscore its deadly possibilities.

What are the water-borne diseases? Very briefly, there are typhoid fever, that deadly plague of only a few score years ago, and various virulent ailments lumped together under the erroneous name of intestinal influenza or dysentery (not all of them have been scientifically established as water-borne, though the evidence is overwhelming). Infantile paralysis is strongly suspected.

In the latest (1948) survey of national sanitation needs, the U. S. Public Health Service reported that 9,100 towns with 6,360,000 inhabitants need complete new sewerage systems; that 9,900 additional communities with nearly 80 million people have systems which badly need improvement, and that 23 million rural inhabitants lack satisfactory sewage or excreta disposal facilities of even the simplest type. At 1947 prices, this construction would cost the communities affected close to $4 billion. This may seem like a lot of money; but coming up is a $15 billion defense program (one year), and it might be worth while to spend $4 billion more and have cities worth defending.

City sewage is disposed of in several ways. Easiest and most popular method is the time-dishonored one of running the raw sewage into the nearest stream. This is called "simple dilution." There are variations of this method. Coastal cities lead the sewage by submarine pipes several thousand feet offshore. Down in the arid Southwest, some cities run their raw sewage out on the desert. At some places, as in California, there are "sewer farms," ponds into which the sewage is poured and allowed to settle and decompose.

The second method, primary treatment, usually means simple sedimentation. This is an advance over simple dilution, but it's a great deceiver, lulling the proud residents of cities giving sewage "primary treatment" into thinking they really are doing something. Actually, it only means that the larger bits of excreta and similar objectionable matter are settled or screened out, with the still heavily charged fluid being returned intact to the streams. Sometimes the effluent is given a shot of chlorine.

Secondary treatment (which is complete treatment as we know it today) involves biological processes which work on *the one-half to two-thirds of organic matter left in the effluent after primary treatment.* The life processes of bacteria are utilized in the intermittent sand-filter, trickling-filter and activated sludge processes of this treatment to help decompose and "purify" sewage. It's the same thing that goes on naturally in a stream, except that man hastens it by warming the sludge and aerating it.

Where raw city sewage does not collect in stagnant pools, and where dilution is sufficient, it does little or no harm to aquatic life. In fact, it can be entirely beneficial, fertilizing the water and encouraging the growth of fish food. However, when raw sewage is concentrated, aerobic bacteria consume all the oxygen in the water, and strangulation of fish ensues. From a health standpoint, of course, raw sewage always is a hazard. And no real recreation is possible in its presence.

THE CITIES' sewage-disposal problems are complicated in varying degrees by industrial wastes which are run into the municipal sewers. Frequently, however, industry simply dumps its wastes into the nearest stream. Most of these wastes are toxic or otherwise deadly to aquatic life. Many are obnoxious. Some few are health menaces. All are objectionable.

Industry takes a lacing from sportsmen because the effects of industrial pollution often are visible in the form of killed fish and oysters that succumbed to a sudden increase in the toxic density in a stream. However, with many notable exceptions I do not believe industrial pollution, ugly though it often is, has as much adverse effect, in the mass, upon our national welfare as has municipal pollution. Industry chiefly destroys fish life, property and property values, and creates obnoxious conditions through its pollution. Municipal pollution does all these, and seriously affects the national health as well.

We have lumped together under industrial pollution nearly all forms other than municipal pollution.

As we have seen in the earlier articles, the metalworking industry causes serious pollution wherever it exists, with steaming-hot "cooling waters," plating and pickling liquors and other wastes. The plating and pickling liquors are highly toxic, and kill fish life as well as corrode metal structures. They impair the odor and taste of drinking water. Oil used in metalworking is an associated serious problem.

Pollution from paper manufacture is widespread and particularly obnoxious because it is both visible, smelly and highly toxic.

To me, a particularly hellish kind of pollution encountered over much of the nation

(Continued Page 14)

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO FIGHT POLLUTION

PUT YOUR sportsman's club up to its neck in the fight for pollution abatement.

ORGANIZE through your sportsman's club an educational program that will tell the folks in your community, in the most fundamental terms, what pollution abatement means to THEM. This means a campaign based primarily on health and recreation—not your fishing.

ORGANIZE the sportsman's clubs in your own county into a county FIGHT-POLLUTION group. Appoint a county committee which will consult with local public officials and industry on overcoming local pollution problems.

ORGANIZE the county FIGHT-POLLUTION groups into a state FIGHT - POLLUTION organization. Appoint a state committee which will consult with the state legislature and its appropriate committees on overcoming state pollution problems.

SEEK the complete co-operation of the various business, professional, rural, political and other organized groups in your community and state, and invite them to be a part of your antipollution organization.

● The course of action from this point will depend on the pollution situation in your state and your community. If your state does not have a strong, comprehensive antipollution law, a good state law, based on one that is working well elsewhere, should be your primary objective. If your state has a good state law, but actual abatement progress is slow, and enforcement inadequate, the fight should be on these. The fight on the local level can be pushed continuously, regardless of the state situation.

STUDY, for your own guidance and that of your fellow club members, practical methods of pollution abatement in your community and your state. But leave the specific solution of any pollution problem up to the engineers and other experts. Be fair. Old pollution problems should not be expected to be eradicated overnight.

Foxhounds are the most versatile of hunting dogs, says the author, because out of the foxhound clan come most of our cat dogs, bear dogs and deer dogs

Foxhound--Jack-of-all-trades

by Fred W. Jones

IN Florida, as in many other Southern States, the American Foxhound is by far and away the most popular and common breed of hound. And there is a good reason for this. He is, verily, a jack-of-all-trades.

Until a couple of years ago, all purebred, and AKC registrable hounds (with the exception of a few beagles) which were used in the hunting of bear, panther, bobcat, coons, deer and foxes, were of the American Foxhound breed. At that time the AKC finally recognized the Black and Tan Coonhound as a distinct breed.

Within the breed, there are many strains. There are the Plott hounds, famous for bear hunting; the redbones and black and tans, often used for coons and cats; the Triggs, Walkers, Julys, Goodmans and so on, used for foxes, deer and bobcats; and others. So it may be seen that the good foxhound should combine all the qualities needed for any of those types of hunting.

But since this concerns foxhounds, used primarily for the hunting of foxes, as it is done in Florida, we'll stick to fox dogs.

As with any other type of hunting dog, good breeding, or blood lines, are important although not ALL-important, for as with all other types of dogs each is an individual, and each puppy in a litter may vary as to qualities. In considering blood lines, show winnings are a factor, but field winnings should be the primary consideration. The average foxhunter uses his dog to hunt. Show qualities are for the "fancier" rather than the hunter.

(This is the final article in a series on Florida hunting dogs. The author is outdoor editor of the Lakeland Ledger, and a recognized authority on foxhounds.—Ed.)

MY experience would indicate that the breeding of the foxhound is very important since the qualities desired are more often born in the dog than obtained by training. In fact, training is a minor item, in my opinion; the dog improves more through experience than anything else.

In support of this theory let's examine the desired qualities for a top fox dog. In field trials dogs are rated on the following: endurance, speed and driving, willingness and ability to hunt, trailing, and mouth (voice).

Endurance, of course, depends somewhat on the care and feed that the dog gets, but even the well-fed and well-cared for dog is sometimes among those who come out of a race, to listen lazily while the rest of the pack shove Brother Reynard around.

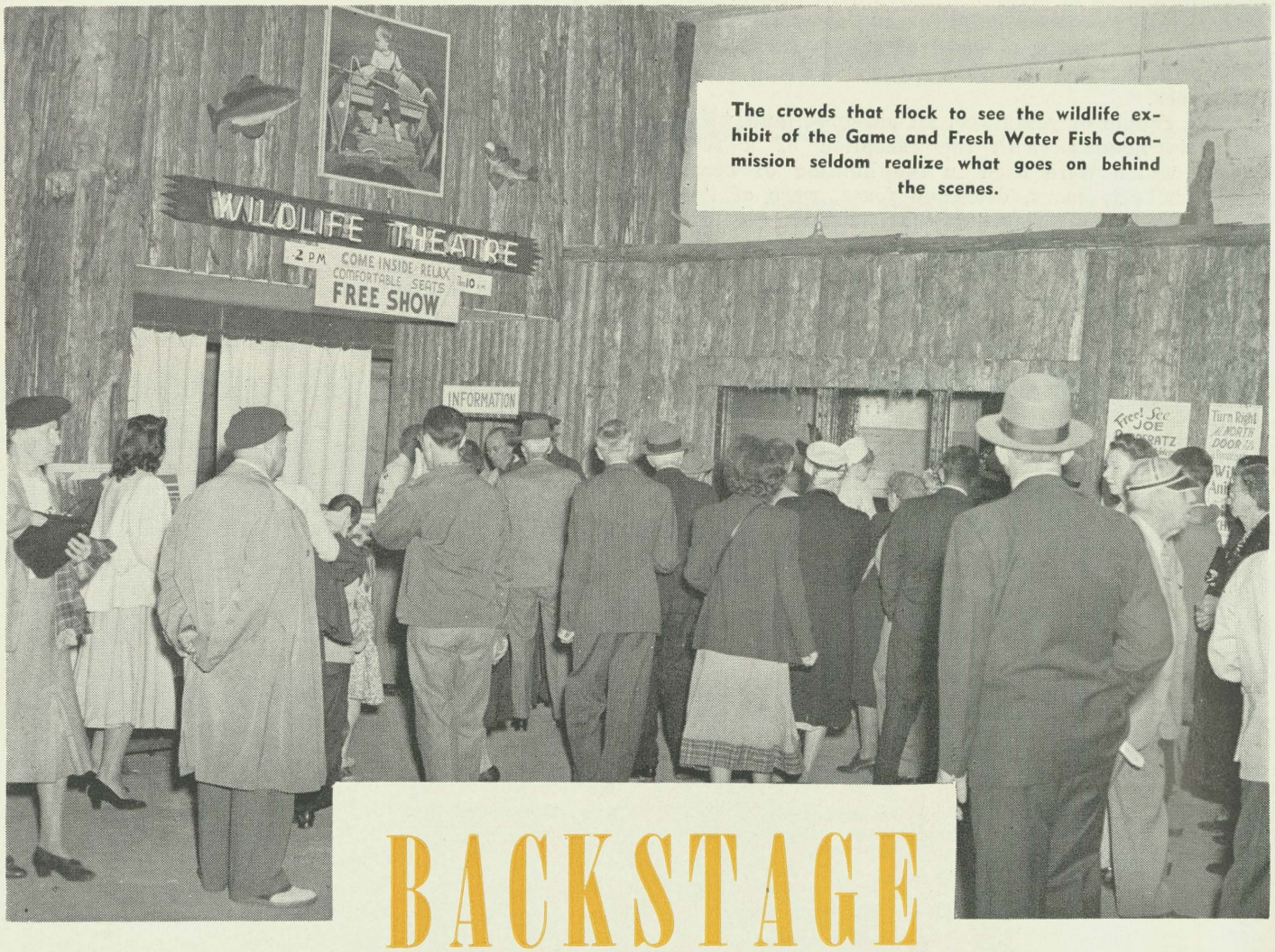
This quality is the most important, if any could be rated the most important, because the greatest disgrace a fox dog owner can suffer is to have one of his dogs come out while the others are still running. Since the fox enjoys the advantages of knowing the country being covered, is the pursued and thus able to twist and turn at his discretion, and is always able to take to a tree or hole when too hotly pressed, the hounds' only chance of winning the "race" is to outlast him.

That most good foxdogs do have this quality in huge quantities is proven by the fact that most races do end with the fox either in a hole or up a tree. A good running fox will often lead the pack for more than a hundred miles of rough running, and often for six, eight or ten hours.

POSSIBLY the best way I could demonstrate the amount of endurance inherent in a good fox dog, would be to tell the story of old Red and Old Bully and their bear hunt.

(Continued Page 19)

Hounds bay at a treed fox during a South Florida field trial.



The crowds that flock to see the wildlife exhibit of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission seldom realize what goes on behind the scenes.

BACKSTAGE

at a Wildlife Exhibit

by MILDRED CURTIS

IT TOOK a trip to the Tampa State Fair to convince me that a Florida wildlife officer must be a jack-of-all-trades—and a master of them all! Aside from running down fire hunters at night and catching up with fishermen who fail to buy a fishing license, there are a lot of other important duties that each officer must fulfill on the spur of the moment—at the snap of a finger.

A two-hour visit at the State Game Commission's amazing 210-foot exhibit at the Fair fully convinced me that, in a way, a wildlife officer is somewhat of a super-man. My conviction came after I'd been given the opportunity to go "behind the scenes" to observe what actually MADE the exhibit "tick."

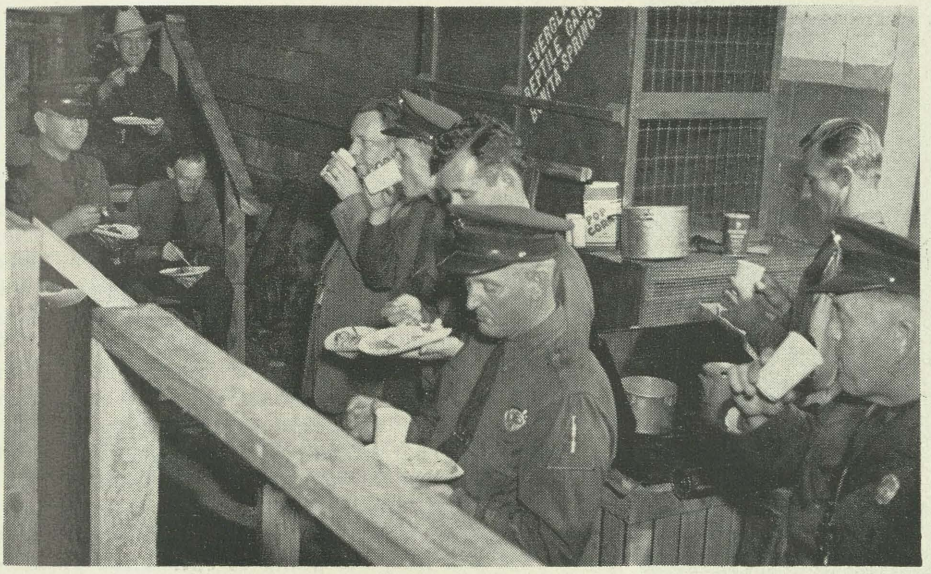
Previously I had listened to the "Oh's" and "Ah's" of thousands of spectators as they filed slowly through the exhibit hall. I was thrilled with the sight of hundreds of fresh water fish swimming nonchalantly behind the confines of spotless glass tanks. I giggled at the antics of two otters showing off in a huge circular tank. I shivered when I viewed a dozen glassy-eyed alligators and crocodiles sliding through the water of another display tank.

During another hour I received downright good entertainment as guest in the commission's show in the "Wildlife Theater." There were reels of exciting outdoor movies, plus 30 minutes of fascinating entertainment by Ned Moren, the noted snake expert, and Joe Padderatz, the commission's armless rod and reel exhibitionist.

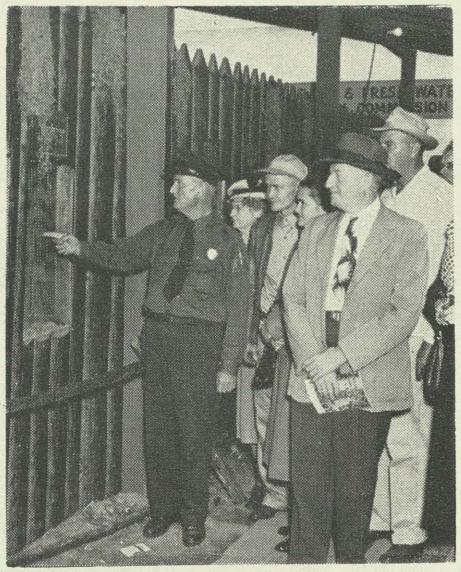
Later I visited the commission's 75-foot wild animal and rare bird display. It featured a full-grown Florida panther, a huge wildcat with a nasty disposition, a black bear and half a dozen other species of native wildlife.

THE WHOLE SHOW, I mused, was a miniature Barnum and Bailey circus! What, I wondered, made it tick?

Finally a request to visit behind the scenes was granted by the exhibit boss, Bill Snyder of the Information and Education Department.



Meals at the fairground are prepared on a two-burner camp stove. Steak, mashed potatoes, beans and coffee are standard fair.



Chief John Swift tells an interest group of visitors about the habits of an egret.

John Swift, chief wildlife officer of the First District, offered to show me around. The visit convinced me that staging a fair exhibit involves a lot of hard work, a goodly share of which falls on the game wardens.

First of all, there is nothing attractive about the sights behind the scenes. It's all a matter of unsightly props and necessary gadgets. The tinsel and carnival aspect is strictly lacking. The area behind the fish tank was downright humid. Sweating wildlife officers failed to glance up at me as they lowered the water level in the tanks with emergency outlet valves.

"We do this at scheduled hours to guard against fungus growth on the fish," Swift explained.

A short move to the otter tank area gave me an opportunity to hear them whine for their lunch just before two wildlife officers started dropping them choice morsels of fresh fish. Meanwhile, other officers were offering squares of red beef to the alligators and crocodiles.

A VISIT TO THE wildlife section was even more exciting! Lunch was being served there too. Cautiously, a wildlife officer pushed a quantity of raw liver through an opening in the panther cage. The panther growled.

"It's the first time I ever fed him," the man admitted somewhat sheepishly.

Another officer was hand-feeding a slender whooping crane while others divided their attention in serving bears, wildcats, quail and a bald eagle. In another section of the display, two officers were preparing supper for the staff on duty. Although they used only a small two-burner camp stove, the aroma of frying steak and boiling coffee filled the air.

"Somehow or other eatin' at the Fair tastes a lot bettern at home," a veteran officer confided.

A trip to the theater projection room lacked nothing in amazement. Two officers were operating the movie machine. A peek downward revealed a capacity audience.

"We learned to run this thing 30 minutes before the Fair opened," one of the officers told me.

Amazed with my visit behind the scenes of the Commission's extensive exhibit, I prepared to leave—but, still another surprise was in store for me.

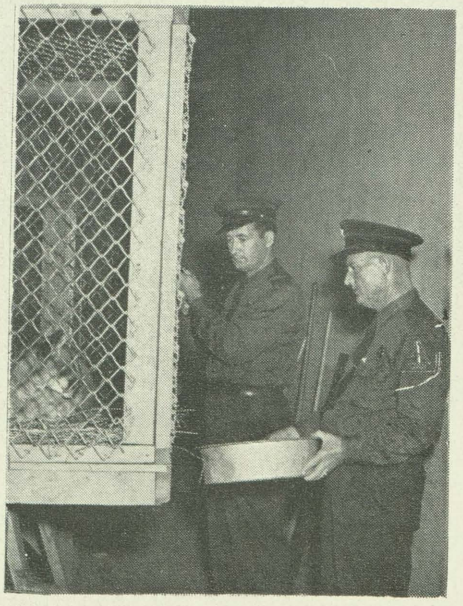
"I want 20 men in full uniform to drive radio jeeps in the Governor's parade," Chief Swift suddenly announced. "Report immediately; it will start in less than an hour."

Ten minutes later 20 jeeps headed out the fairground gate to participate in the parade!

Then I was fully convinced. A wildlife officer is a combination showman, animal handler, cook, caretaker and public relations man in addition to protecting the state's wildlife storeroom. He is truly a versatile man—particularly around fair time.

There's a lot more to staging a wildlife exhibit than meets the eye—and a lot more to a wildlife officer's job than carrying a badge.

Wildlife Officer D. L. Petty, left, and Chief John Swift serve lunch to a full-grown Florida panther.



Orange Lake and Lochloosa

THE OLD-TIMER from up at Cross Creek chuckled to himself every time the city fellows in the next boat landed one of the speckled beauties. Not knowing exactly what they were catching didn't seem to bother them a bit. One was sure it was crappie. The fisherman from Indiana swore that they were identical to the calico bass that he used to catch back home. Still another was sure that it was speckled perch that rapidly filled the stringer tied to the side of the boat. The old fisherman laughed again as he mused to himself that they were all correct as to what kind of fish they were catching. But, as he was threading a new bait on his hook, the fourth fisherman in the neighboring boat summed the whole thing up in a remark sweet to the ears of any Waltonion when he said, "Call them what you like, I'm going to call it the greatest day's fishing I ever ran into."

Now a remark like that can be made by some people on some days about fishing in all the lakes and streams of Florida. Then there are other places in the state where such a thing could be said by a great many people on a great many days. But any crappie angler in from any day's fishing on Orange Lake or its sister body of water, Lochloosa, just about has to say it. Because, with some possible argument from Tennessee's TVA lakes, these two bodies undoubtedly claim the best crappie fishing in the South.

Orange and Lochloosa, havens of the speck-

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **SIXTH IN A SERIES**

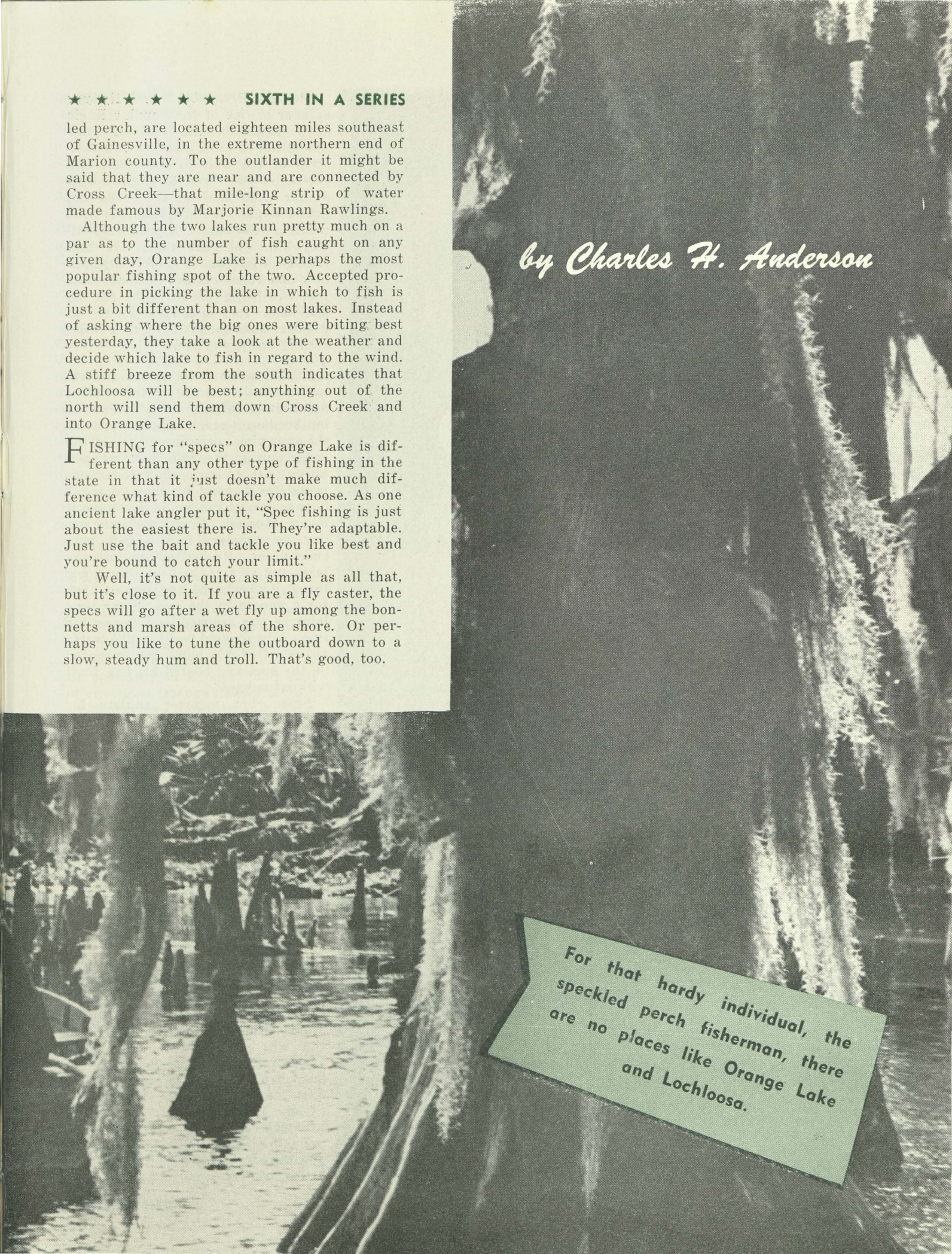
led perch, are located eighteen miles southeast of Gainesville, in the extreme northern end of Marion county. To the outlander it might be said that they are near and are connected by Cross Creek—that mile-long strip of water made famous by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

Although the two lakes run pretty much on a par as to the number of fish caught on any given day, Orange Lake is perhaps the most popular fishing spot of the two. Accepted procedure in picking the lake in which to fish is just a bit different than on most lakes. Instead of asking where the big ones were biting best yesterday, they take a look at the weather and decide which lake to fish in regard to the wind. A stiff breeze from the south indicates that Lochloosa will be best; anything out of the north will send them down Cross Creek and into Orange Lake.

FISHING for "specs" on Orange Lake is different than any other type of fishing in the state in that it just doesn't make much difference what kind of tackle you choose. As one ancient lake angler put it, "Spec fishing is just about the easiest there is. They're adaptable. Just use the bait and tackle you like best and you're bound to catch your limit."

Well, it's not quite as simple as all that, but it's close to it. If you are a fly caster, the specs will go after a wet fly up among the bonnetts and marsh areas of the shore. Or perhaps you like to tune the outboard down to a slow, steady hum and troll. That's good, too.

by Charles H. Anderson

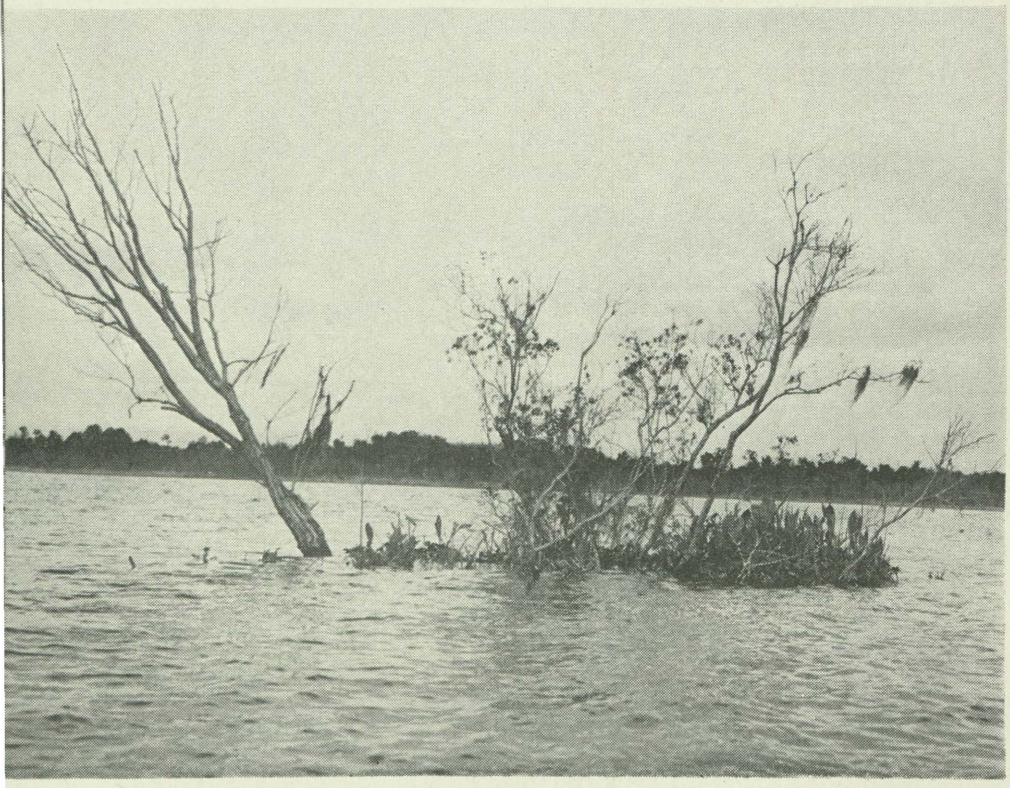


For that hardy individual, the speckled perch fisherman, there are no places like Orange Lake and Lochloosa.

Results of a few hours of cane pole and live bait fishing on Lochloosa. These northern visitors said that it was the best day's fishing they ever had.

★ ★

One of the hundreds of floating islands on Orange lake. This small one, buoyant enough to support a man, will drift several hundred yards in a day.



Tie a small, number 2 or 3, fly type spinner or one of the popular Eagle Claw baits on the end of your nylon, add a thin, narrow two inch strip of cut bait to the hook and you're on your way to a swell fish dinner. And then for the bread and butter angler, the skeptical boy who wants a dead sure thing, there is always the old cane pole, live bait variety of fishing. A good lively minnow and your cork set at about four feet will bring 'em in. Like the old man said, "they're adaptable." It just doesn't make much difference what kind of tackle you use.

UNTIL a few years ago perch fishing was limited to the winter months, not because of any man-made laws but because it seemed that as soon as the spawning season was over in the early spring the fish just stopped biting. Of course, when that happened there were bream and black bass to be caught, so no one gave it much thought. Then one summer day, so we were told, a lazy man came along. He drifted out into the lake, put a live bait on his hook, threw it overboard and leaned back for a snooze in the sun. Some time later he was aroused by a tug on his line. A two-pound perch broke water as he lifted his pole. He anchored on the spot and boated his bag limit without moving.

Since then summer anglers for perch move slowly about the lake with a deep line over the side. When this baited line falls into one of the numerous deep, cool holes it's a cinch to attract a spec. Just anchor the boat and keep your line near the bottom.

Like many other places in the state, Orange Lake offers something that is just a little unusual. Perhaps an angler fishing there for one day wouldn't notice it, but anyone puting in more than a day on the lake certainly would. Suppose the fish have been biting swell; you have your limit and are ready to head to camp before noon. Naturally you would like to come back to the same spot the next day, so you take a glance around for a few landmarks that will help locate the spot again. Well, over there is an island with two dead trees about fifteen feet tall. Just to your left and off that point of land is another small island with a lot of brush and one tall tree. Easy enough to find the next morning—you think!

Tomorrow you get your gear load-

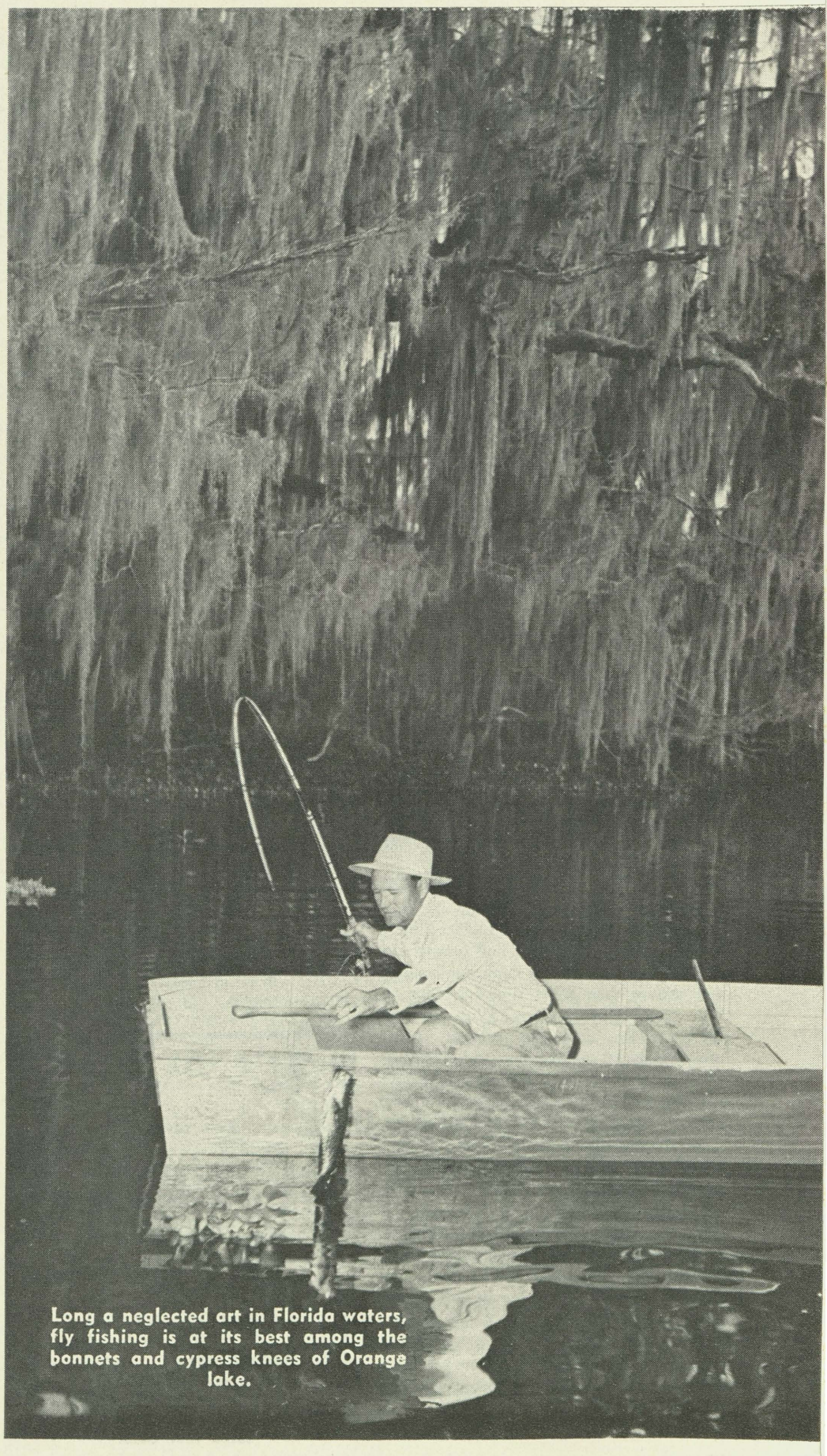
ed and head for that spot. Your island with the two trees will, no doubt be somewhere up near the pine trees along the shore and the one with the brush and the single tall tree will be a half mile on down the lake, joined by two or three other islands.

You are on the lake of the famous floating islands—islands made up of matted masses of decaying vegetation. Formed in the marshes along the shore from rotted hyacinth, saw grass and other aquatic plants these islands usually remain joined to the shore over a period of many years until they become four to six feet thick. On the surface, mainland plants and trees will grow in the rich muck-like soil. Then some year comes the big wind, a Florida hurricane, to break loose large sections of this floating land and send it wandering about the lake until it eventually breaks into small bits and disintegrates, or, as some of the larger masses do, drifts ashore and the tree roots growing through the bottom of of the island attach it permanently to the mainland.

ALTHOUGH no records have ever been broken by an unusually large perch from either the waters of Orange Lake or Lockloosa, there has been a very near miss. The largest of the species on record is four pounds, nine ounces. This past winter season Orange Lake yielded a four pound, two ounce beauty. This, however, is far above the average. The usual catch is about one-half to three-quarters pounds, with two and three pounders not too uncommon.

The daily bag limit on perch is, like all others of the pan fish variety, twenty fish per person per day. One noble character who had fished the area many times said that his luck was too good. He just couldn't get in a full day's fishing. So he imposed a limit of fifteen speckled perch on himself. Then he could take time out for a few of the large double hand-sized bream around the bonnettes and tussocks close in to shore, and if time still permitted there was always some mighty fine bass plugging in among the cypress knees of Cross Creek.

"That way," he remarked, "I got more fish and more fishin'. Don't have to stop at twenty. The book says I can have a string of twenty-five so long as there are different kinds—and you'd be surprised how many times I leave here with that twenty-five on my stringer, too."



Long a neglected art in Florida waters, fly fishing is at its best among the bonnets and cypress knees of Orange lake.

RUNNING SORES . . .

(Continued from Page 5)

is that caused by the meat-packing industry. I can't understand why a community tolerates it because it is thoroughly objectionable and easily corrected by the same methods used to treat human sewage. Closely associated with slaughterhouses and packing plants are tanneries, and their waste effluents are somewhat similar.

Seasonal canning creates a tremendous pollution problem in many parts of the country. Milk, butter and cheese preparation and manufacture causes pollution which is an especial curse in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa. Distilling, brewing and sugar-beet processing create waste high in oxygen demand, and noisome to the nostrils. Distillery and brewing slops are a problem particularly in New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky. The sugar-beet problem starts in the Midwest and extends to the West Coast.

The manufacture of cotton, rayon, nylon, wool and other textiles is one of our greatest blessings and one of our worst pollution curses. All operations are concentrated well east of the Mississippi.

The chemical industry has been centered in the area from the Great Lakes east, but a huge new field is appearing along the Gulf of Mexico. Nothing much lives in waters polluted by chemical plants.

There are two angles to petroleum pollution—production of the oil and its refining. Hard hit by refining are the coastal states of Texas, California, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and in the inland states of Oklahoma and Indiana. Drilling for oil creates a serious brine problem in streams and wells.

From the earth, too, comes other things such as soft and hard coal and ores. I do not suppose there is a more foully polluted section than the soft-coal regions of Ohio, western Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky. Poisonous "sulphur water" from abandoned mines, culm- and chemical-laden waters from coal washings and waste materials pour into the streams to turn them into gray-black graves for all aquatic life. In the West, hydraulic mining and dredging turn the rivers into silt-laden carriers of wastes.

A blind spot in the eyes of persons fighting pollution is erosion. So far as fish life in concerned, I believe it causes more harm than industrial and municipal pollution put together. A stream can shake off human pollution from scattered points along its way—but no stream can withstand a barrage of silt poured into it from bare, eroded land along its entire course. The silt covers the redds of spawning fish, burying the eggs. It kills the young, often adult, fish.

IN THE foregoing and in the six preceding articles we considered the sources of pollution and its extent throughout the nation. Now let us examine the ways and means of ending pollution.

First and handiest point of attack is the cities. Municipal pollution can be ended more easily and quickly than industrial, and its end will have the most far-reaching effect upon public health and well-being. Plain common decency demands that no city should be allowed to flush its toilets into a stream shared by other cities or used by human beings below the city.

Some cities can be persuaded to clean up voluntarily, some must be forced to do so. Since some cities must be forced to act, strong State laws specifically aimed at municipal, as well as other, pollution are the primary need—a basic, all-inclusive act in each state, with powerful enforcement powers. The necessity for a better and more powerful Federal antipollution law was mentioned earlier. But this must necessarily confine itself within accepted limits of Federal power. A really vigorous Federal law to combat to-the-bitter-end pollution is probably inevitable eventually. But meanwhile, the States have a solemn obligation, to their own citizens, their neighbor states and the nation, to take the bull of intrastate pollution by the horns and fight it with all the energy they possess. Each state must recognize pollution within its own boundaries is its own responsibility. Each state should accept this responsibility wholeheartedly, as an imperative measure for its own and the national welfare. In the last analysis, it is the individual state that can fight pollution most successfully and most quickly.

Let us look briefly now at the new Federal antipollution law, passed at the close of the last session of Congress. For some time, the law will mean mostly study of pollution and its problems, and recommendations for abatement. No sound national program would be possible, in any event, until such a study was made.

"Bertram certainly is determined to catch that coon."

The act, recognizing the effects of pollution on the public health and welfare, states it is the policy of Congress to protect States' rights in pollution abatement, to devise methods of treatment of industrial wastes, to provide Federal technical service, and to provide financial aid. The object is said to be to conserve interstate waters and tributaries for public water supplies, recreation, agriculture, industry, wildlife, etc. It calls for joint investigations (with the states) of water conditions.

Very briefly, the act provides for encouragement of uniform state antipollution laws and compacts between states, extremely limited financial aid (loans), and limited enforcement. Loans to a limit of $250,000 are authorized to states, municipalities and interstate agencies. Small grants for study and surveys are authorized for the same. No loans or grants are authorized for industry. Enforcement, applying to waters reaching a second state, is surrounded with numerous defendant's safeguards and delay, with a gaping legal loophole at the end in the form of feasibility of abatement.

A Federal laboratory for pollution study is ordered. No funds were appropriated, and until this is done by the present Congress operation of the act is in abeyance.

It can be seen that wholesale pollution abatement on a national scale is a huge problem. There are phases of it that offer no simple solution, as Congress discovered in writing the above law. For some time to come the big fight for pollution abatement will no doubt be centered in the states, with powerful invoking of the Federal health power not a prospect until the problem of non-complying states, at some future time, becomes clarified. Before this, a policy of generous Federal grants-in-aid is likely to emerge to help state and local units which are in need of financial assistance. The real problem of industrial cleanup with reference to interstate competing industries and the national government has not yet emerged. It is conceivable the states can handle the bulk of this problem alone.

A good State antipollution law would apply to all forms of pollution, and would provide for:

1. An absolute end to all new pollution, in the sense that no industry or municipality could start putting new *untreated* wastes into a stream. 2. A definite program for abatement of existing pollution with a reasonable, but firm, time schedule that would not handicap industry or municipalities. 3. Creation of a water control commission with power to issue mandatory orders, its membership representing the state departments of health, fish and game,

agriculture, commerce, development and any other department which is the least bit concerned with the use of water. 4. Heavy penalties for failure to comply with orders, with the fines to run for *each day* of continued violation rather than a blanket fine, since some industries would rather pay a blanket fine than provide treatment. 5. Recognition of the fact that everyone is entitled to the use of waters within the state, and also that everyone is legally responsible for the conditions of the waters. 6. Reasonable freedom of antipollution activities from political considerations.

Such a law would not handicap any one city in a state in comparison with any other, but would be firmly regulatory over all. If all cities in a state were ordered to clean up, one could not cry discrimination and bias. If all industries were put on an equal footing, no single one would be pressed into a disadvantageous competitive position due to the costs of initiating treatment. There is an obvious flaw here, of course, since industries selling their products outside of the state would often be competing with industries which were not yet footing treatment costs. It is probable that in most cases the cost of treatment per sales item would not substantially hamper the firm providing treatment. However, here is an obvious "out" which many industries may avail themselves of, justified or not. And in many cases they may be justified. In the end, the Federal government may be the only agency which can satisfactorily arbitrate this situation.

The strong state law that we have been discussing, in its application within the state boundaries, would have to be administered with reasonable recognition of the fact that industry is a diverse organism, and that operating conditions are not all alike. It would be silly, for instance, to issue the same flat clean-up order to distilleries and to soft-coal operators. Compliance would be relatively easy for the distilleries, and almost impossible for the collieries, since there is no precise solution for their pollution problem today. This is where sportsmen have made a serious mistake in the past. Their rabid antipollutionists have envisioned a hopelessly utopian world in which everyone cleans up all pollution at once. That's impossible.

I have talked to sportsmen, to sanitary engineers, to health department heads, to industrialists and to plain citizens over the entire country, and it is my firm conviction that pollution abatement has been hindered rather than helped because some sportsmen spokesmen have demanded too much. We should not delude ourselves. We can't lick industry. It has more money than we have. It has more political pull. And it has an argument—an overwhelming argument. It is indispensable, economically and socially. It also has votes, a lot of votes—the people and their dependents who get their livelihood from it. Congress and the state legislatures are bound to look at the picture from its many facets. At the same time, it is generally clearly understood that the general question of resource conservation is no longer an idealistic one.

Fortunately, and believe it or not, industry is not without a conscience or a heart. Many factories have cleaned up their front yards, literally, landscaping the entrance to their plants because they realize they are a part of their community, and want to look as attractive as possible. Now, they are beginning to examine their back yards, where sewer outlets carry their wastes into the nearest stream. This is being written in the mountains of Pennsylvania, after many conversations with coal operators who are personal friends and who are under orders to clean up in Pennsylvania's Clean Streams program. Their comments might be that of industry as a whole in the United States. They say grudgingly: "Well, we don't like to spend the money to clean up, but we realize that we should."

Dr. Roy B. Dean, of Acapulco, Mexico, administers artificial respiration to sailfish he catches before releasing them. He holds the fish at the side of the boat while the craft is moving at slow forward speed. The water rushing through the fish's gills revives the fish.

The Ford Motor Company, Dow Chemical American Viscose Corporation and others have been damned as vicious pollutors of streams, and they are, but it must be said in all fairness that they have spent huge sums of money to correct their evils. Industry generally is showing a willingness to co-operate, and the smart antipollutionist will capitalize on this, rather than antagonize big business. Industry senses the definite antipollution trend across the nation, and is starting to play along with it. We must play along with industry.

Anyone who has followed this series must realize that no punches have been pulled where municipalities or industry have been at fault. Offenders have been named regardless of who or what was hurt. So, too, no punches are being pulled now in this statement: There is little cooperation among the various groups most interested in pollution abatement, and each seems to be scrambling for full credit if pollution is ended.

TO GAIN a state law along the lines suggested, it is necessary for us to sell the public on the need for pollution abatement, to secure the cooperation and not the opposition of industry, and to pull in the same direction.

Incredibly enough, some states have no pollution laws except those that forbid poisoning a public water supply. Too many states have legislation administered entirely by their health departments without consideration of other uses of water than as a drinking supply. Many states have a vicious "permit" system which allows existing pollution and permits new pollution. Many states have perfectly adequate pollution laws and the power to issue orders against offenders; but the laws are not enforced. If state sanitary engineers had the power to enforce the existing laws, they could end nearly all pollution within a few years. Unfortunately, many of them are hamstrung by politics. They can't act without pussyfooting around to find out how the party in power at the moment feels about things.

If the men who do know what's what are to get anywhere, they need your support. Without public support, they are helpless. They spoke freely to me when they learned that they would not be quoted directly, and I have them to thank for much of the inside information I obtained about the various states.

If your state lacks adequate laws, agitate for their passage. If your state has adequate laws, agitate for their enforcement. Enlist everyone you can. Get the women on your side because they control a lot of votes. All politicians—and that's what you will deal with in the long run—respect the voting power of large groups.

There are some states that can be forced to clean up, and to do it almost immediately. They had better clean up or face the powerful weapon of economic boycott. I refer to those states which use polluted water for irrigation of truck crops and berries.

Some states are making remarkable strides forward, and sometimes where least expected. Pennsylvania is the last place in the world where one would expect to find a strong pollution law aimed at industry as well as cities; yet it has such and the great bath to clean up its grime has been under way since 1945. This is the nation's largest manufacturing state, and it leads all others in industrial pollution. It's going to take years, but if Pennsylvania can clean up, any state can.

Steady advances also are being made by Massachusetts, Connecticut, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Rhode Island. States like North and South Dakota are making progress under great difficulties—insufficient water and unfavorable topography. It must be em-

(Continued Page 22)

Clubs

By RALPH G. COOKSEY
President, Florida Wildlife Federation

THE PURPOSE OF FEDERATION

Florida sportsmen who question the advisability and benefits of affiliating with the Florida Wildlife Federation, confident in the knowledge that they best understand and constantly are in touch with conditions in their own locality, should immediately take warning from the advice contained herein.

We asked these sportsmen what their reaction would be were the quail placed on the protected list by a national measure. We ask what their reaction would be to having their activities as hunters regulated and curbed under cabinet control by the United States Government.

The first question, and for that matter the second one, may seem at the moment to be an exaggerated stretch of the imagination. However, the sportsmen in other states, for instance in Ohio, take these matters as cold fact and possibility. Too late, the sportsmen of Ohio found that they had slept through legislation which restricted them from hunting one of their choicest game birds, the quail.

Some of Florida's sportsmen also are asleep. Some, confident that the Federation is alert to protect their interests in every event, and others asleep blissfully unaware of any potential dangers to their freedoms or resources.

Perhaps the most potential danger of all times lies in the fact there exists a National Federation originally instituted by sportsmen from every state in the Union, and which today includes in its membership such state and national organizations as the Humane Society, the Audubon Society, the Izaac Walton League, and many other similar wildlife enthusiasts whose ardor in protecting wildlife would, if possible, curb the activities of the hunters and, in some phases, the fishermen.

These factions have recently, again, attempted to establish influence in the National Wildlife Federation by offering an amendment to the National By-Laws which would give them a portion of the state vote in legislative and internal questions coming before the sportsmen at National assemblies.

The Florida Wildlife Federation, alert to every event in state and national matters pertinent to the welfare of the sportsmen, immediately instituted a concerted effort throughout the United States to defeat this proposed amendment. This strength will without doubt result in the defeat of such attempts to absorb the control of the National Wildlife Federation. The fact that Florida is represented on the Resolutions Committee of the National Federation will also lend strength toward such efforts for protection.

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CLUB

Many club presidents believe that the element of entertainment and sports affairs constitute the most successful club. This is true only when the club has as its primary purpose, the accomplishment of preserving and producing the natural resources from which stem the pleasures enjoyed by the members of the club.

There are at present great needs in both production and conservation, some of the most important of which are the need for the planning and maintenance of suitable cover and food for quail; the need for eradication and control of hyacinths; the need for establishing suitable vegetation in fresh water ponds and lakes for spawning grounds; the need for purification of fresh water streams from pollution draining from nearby industrial plants and sewers; and the need for control of predators such as has been started during the past year, to insure the propagation of game and wildlife through maturity.

Many clubs have undertaken some of these projects and have realized marked success. However, to say that such a club is the most successful would be reaching a conclusion before the climax. Whatever success has resulted from the activity should be proof of the strength of the members once they turn their interest toward conservation needs. It will be found to be a stimulus to further work on essential projects. When once a club has encompassed the over-all program of conservation and diligently applied their multiple efforts toward some measure of accomplishment in their own locality the club will be most successful. The feeling of a job well done, is the highest gratification only in one sense. That the job has been well done will determine that those members who have worked to that end shall benefit over a period of years to come through the replenishment and abundance of game and fish to provide the pleasures which were once the incidental privilege of all Floridians. This will classify the club as one of the most successful.

SPORTSMEN OF TOMORROW

The most successful club of today will engage the assistance of every individual in the family of its members, but especially their junior enthusiasts. Juniors learn best by "doing" and "seeing" the measures of conservation under the direction of adult sportsmen. Visual education has taken the lead in the field of inspiration to training and efficiency. The junior who accompanies a sportsman in the field or on the stream, and who understands the theory of conserving the game and fish for reproduction, and better hunting and fishing the following season, will represent an insurance for the protection of Florida's resources. In addition to field experience there is available to all affiliated clubs a library of movie films which will lend enchantment to the junior embarking on the conservation movement. These may be obtained through the Florida Wildlife Federation and through the Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission. No charge is made for this service.

To further interest the juniors, a club should canvass its locality for the most "back to nature" camp or resort likely to appeal to the adventure-spirit of youth. Many such camps are available for weekends at an extremely low fee which will be an investment sure to reap enormous benefits, and of great profit to the community and state. The youth who takes employment during summer months will find incentive in prospective field and stream excursions. Here, will be built the fine sportsman of tomorrow.

Columbia County Sportsmen's Club pledged full support to the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission's law enforcement program at a meeting at Camp O'Leno last month.

Violations of state game and fish laws was the chief topic of discussion at the meeting, which was attended by more than 50 sportsmen.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

FEDERATION NOTES

OFFICERS

President.....Ralph Cooksey, St. Petersburg
Treasurer.....E. A. Markham, Gulfport
Recording Secretary.....George A. Speer, Sanford
Executive Secretary ..... Mrs. Helen Sullivan

Federation To Ask Proof of Ownership Of Posted Grounds

Legislation requiring all persons posting lands to produce legal proof of ownership was proposed at the February meeting of the Florida Wildlife Federation at Sanford.

The ownership-proof legislation was proposed after a number of clubs reported to the assembly that a vast amount of land which is now posted against hunting is posted by persons having no vested interest in the land.

A resolution was also approved which asked the Internal Improvement Board to cooperate with the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission in making available state owned lands for hunting purposes. Such lands to be restricted from posting and made accessible to hunters during open season.

The main speaker on the agenda at the meeting was Dr. F. G. Walton Smith from the University of Miami and the Marine Laboratory at Coral Gables. Dr. Smith included in his address portions of his recent survey of the reasons for the depletion of salt water game and food fish in the coastal water surrounding Florida.

Another resolution was approved to recommend to the legislature that the management of the salt water resources of Florida be placed under the direction of a Commission to function along the lines of the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

A large legislative committee, headed by George A. Speer of Sanford, was appointed by President Ralph Cooksey. Included on the committee are:

E. A. Markham, Gulfport; M. C. Lewis, Tom Starling and W. E. Fulford, Orlando; Porter Lansing, Sanford; Wesley Wilkinson, Clearwater; William Wellman, West Palm Beach; A. D. Cullis, Clearwater; Drew Harris, Daytona Beach; Richard Bryant, St. Petersburg and E. D. McManus, Winter Garden.

Tom Wright, president of the Lake Apopka Sportsmen's Association, goes to work with a hyacinth sprayer. The club, supplying the money and labor, is keeping the hyacinth under control on Florida's second-largest lake.

Lake Apopka Anglers Start Hyacinth War

The Lake Apopka Sportsmen's Association has been one of the first clubs in the state to join the crusade to afford more fishing grounds by clearing hyacinths from good fishing waters.

An all steel barge 32 feet long with a beam of 12 feet was donated to the Association by S. L. Cheek, President of the Florida Anglers' Association. Lake Apopka Sportsmen remodeled the barge to hold a 600 gallon tank of spray mixture, equipped it with an engine to force a 100 foot spray at the rate of 25 gallons per minute, and pontoon planks for reaching areas inaccessible by the barge.

The overall cost for remodeling was $5,500. Orange and Lake Counties provided the funds to purchase the weed killer spray in 55 gallon containers at $400 each.

A total of 440 gallons or $3,200 worth of spray has been used in opening up canals between lakes.

The Pelican derives its name from the Greek, because of its huge beak shaped like the axe, pelekus in Greek.

Pinellas Club Starts Quail Trapping Plan

An active quail program to replenish the popular game bird's stock in Pinellas County is being pushed by the Pinellas Conservation Club from its headquarters in Clearwater.

Tom North, who heads the club's quail trapping program, is contacting everyone in the Clearwater area who has a covey of quail on their property in an effort to gain property-owner cooperation.

At a meeting of the Pinellas Conservation Club, North outlined a plan whereby the club will trap out parts of coveys for breeding purposes. The plan includes the replacing of trapped birds with other quail.

Under the supervision of biologists from the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the trapped birds will be put into suitable habitats which now have no quail.

To promote a better quail program, the club has on hand seed to be planted for quail food. The seed is available to land owners who wish to start quail feeding grounds.

They're BITING Here

LOST LAKE

A new fishing spot for most Floridians and tourists alike is Lost Lake in the Everglades just west of Delray Beach. Bass, speckled perch and bream abound in the numerous "gator ponds" found in this almost inaccessible swampland of Florida, just waiting for any webb-footed fishing enthusiast hardy enough to venture to the spot. Froggers from Delray Beach have recently been taking parties out on their air boats, and they have been getting exceptionally good catches.

The depth of the lake varies from a foot to four feet and in the winter when the water lilies and grass are not so profuse, there are clear ponds on the lake in which an artificial spoon can be used effectively. However, in the summer only live bait dropped through the holes in the water bonnets can be used. Local sportsmen have been enjoying this paradise for some time but it has never been generally known throughout the state as a bona fide fishing ground.

★ ★ ★

LAKE WINDER

The south end of Lake Winder near Melbourne is the prize bass and speckled perch fishing spot in Brevard County, although all of Lake Helen and the St. Johns river between Opossum Bluff and Auto Bluff run it a close second. Dalton and bucktail bait is used along with live bait for the best catches. Bream are being caught in heart-warming numbers in South Forty Canal, plus a fairly good number of bass. Many hopefuls have caught their limit fishing early in the morning.

★ ★ ★

LAKE APOPKA

Everybody is catching from 15 to their limit of speckled perch and plenty of bass on Lake Apopka. Many fine speckled perch catches have been made trolling with pot-bellies and red-horse minnows while live bait have been hauling in the bass. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Fisher of Westwood, Mass., brought in six bass Monday, ten Tuesday and seven Wednesday in one week recently. One of the bass tipped the scales at 11 pounds.

Robert Delson

CLERMONT CHAIN

Some of the best fresh water fishing in the state is being done in the Clermont Chain of Lakes in Lake County according to all reports received here. On Lakes Harris, Summers, Kirkland, Saw Grass, Louise, Emma and Lucy, the crappie, bass, red gill and warmouth perch are biting "like crazy." most successful bait for bass has been live bait and lures such as the Hawaiian Wiggler and Dalton Special; crappie have been going for live minnows and the red gill and warmouth have been grabbing all the angle worms in sight. February with the full moon was a very successful month for fishing in this chain and March promises to be equally so. The most highly recommended fishing places in the lakes are near bonnet pads, grassy points, islands and at the outlets and inlets.

★ ★ ★

LEVY COUNTY

The bass are running small but extremely numerous on the Withlacoochee River and back waters down in Levy County. With small shiners for bait a sportsman lucky enough to be on this Florida fishing mecca can almost always bring home a mess of fish. Cow Creek and Ten Mile Creek are especially choice spots to wet a line according to the fishing old-timers of the section. Live shiners have been the most effective bait for bass lately. Although, the bass are giving outdoorsmen the most for their money, the bream are also going for worms in substantial numbers. Early morning is the finest fishing hour in Ten Mile and Cow Creek, especially when the tide is low; both early morning and late evening are excellent on the Withlacoochee River.

★ ★ ★

OCHEESEE POND

North Floridians have been finding Ocheesee Pond, southeast of Marianna in Jackson County a virtual sportsman's meal ticket as far as black bass are concerned. Early in the morning, around sunrise, the bass will take live bait or any popular artificial plug back among the cypress trees all over the north section of the pond.

JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES

(Continued from Page 7)

Both of these dogs had reached the age (five or six years) when the "old" had been automatically attached to their names. Both were cat and fox dogs, but on a couple of occasions, Old Bully had run bear. Bully belonged to a foxhunting friend, Paul Williams, who insisted, when he found that I was headed for the 'Glades after panther and bear, that I take Old Bully along. I carried five dogs on the trip—Old Red and three young dogs that belonged to me, and Bully.

It was the first bear hunt not only for my four dogs, but also for my two companions and me. The country we intended to hunt was new, and the result was that though we struck a hot bear trail the first morning, we had completely lost the pack in two hours due to our inexperience and to the high wind that had come up.

All efforts to locate them failed, but late that night the three young dogs came in to camp. We waited and hunted for three more days, then due to the press of business, had to leave. Later we received a wire from the ranch owner that Old Red and Bully had come in the fourth night.

We went back to get them three days later. Our friend at the ranch had fed the dogs well, and that was all since he was right in the middle of his busy season. They were still thin as rails and in addition had screw worms in their feet. They had come in sore-footed of course, and since the rancher hadn't had time to doctor their feet, the screw worms had played havoc.

We applied screw worm dope but Old Red had a hole in one fore foot and one hind foot that you could stick your thumb in, and Old Bully wasn't much better off.

I was accompanied on this second trip by Paul who was quite excited by the amount of bear sign visible, and who wouldn't be satisfied until we had tried for another in spite of the fact that we had only the two worn-out dogs. We didn't find a bear trail hot enough to run, but those two dogs, who had run a bear the better part of four days at least, and who hadn't had anything to eat for that time, and who had had only three days in which to rest, did jump and bring to bay, two near record bobcats in the next two days. One of the cats ran for three hours and fifteen minutes and the second ran for four hours.

Of course, a dog with that kind of "bottom" is usually also endowed with the ability and willingness to hunt, a good nose for a cold trail, and a certain amount of speed and drive.

However, this is not always true. Sometimes a dog will stick to a trail with the persistence of a burr after the fox is jumped, but falls down on the cold trailing, or even refuses to hunt at all.

Of all the desirable characteristics, probably the easiest to excuse is a poor mouth—that is if the dog has all the others. A good mouth will, however, add many dollars to a dog's value. And speaking of values, don't expect to buy a good foxhound for a few dollars. An ordinary foxhound will sell for somewhere between $75 and $150, but sometimes they run on up into the thousands.

TANKER SHORTAGE, MAYBE?

When Esta Woods of Sarasota pulled in a one-pound mackerel, he was surprised to find the word "oil" imprinted on the fish's side. Noticing that there were faint impressions of other letters, he tore off the skin and was even more astonished. Printed plainly on the fish's body were the words "oil reserve."

SOME foxhunters do no training whatever on their young dogs. Usually they are started off with older and experienced dogs at about seven months to a year of age, and learn from experience. However, since a fox dog which runs rabbits, coons and oppossums is a nuisance in the field, I believe a little training on what to run is required.

I do this training by turning the dogs out in the morning just before daybreak. Then if the youngsters want to run a rabbit or other unwanted game, it is possible to be sure before correcting the pup. I never punish or scold a pup for running undesired game until after it has run at least a couple of fox trails. By this system it knows that it is being scolded or punished for running that particular animal and not just for running game.

By all means be sure your dog is wrong. This cannot be emphasized too strongly. I myself have punished a pup, and on one occasion an old dog, for running the wrong game, then later discovered that the dog was right after all and I was mislead by circumstantial evidence.

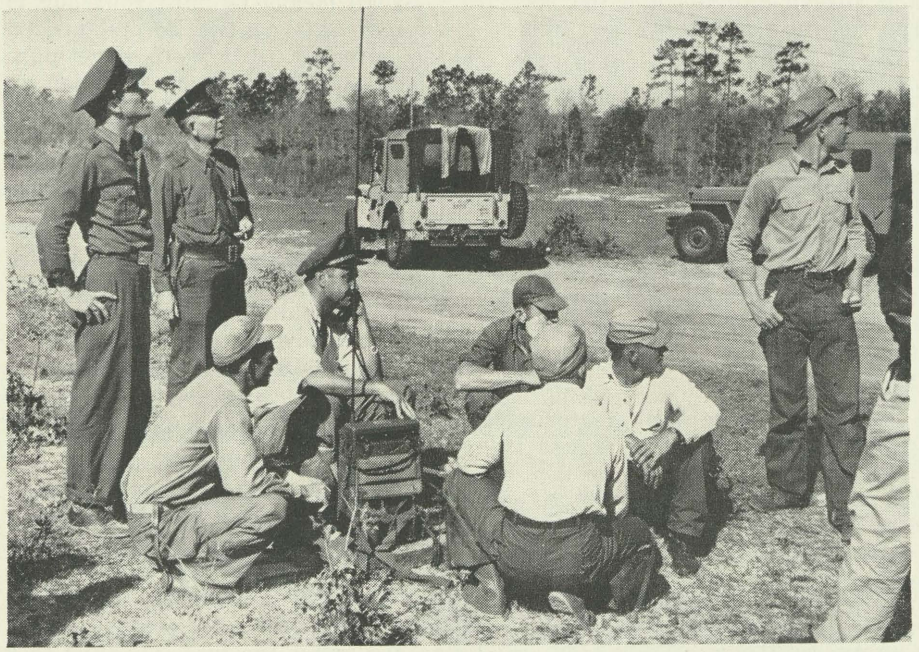
If a pup runs a trail that an older "rabbit-broke" dog won't take, you're safe in calling the youngster off and possibly scolding it somewhat; however, don't overdo this, because it is always **possible** that the old dog is wrong.

To illustrate this point: One morning one of my pups hit a trail and ran it to a tree. The other dogs went to him but wouldn't take it. Arriving at the tree, I found a house cat, and after scolding the pup, went on. We didn't strike a trail and about an hour later on the way back, again passed under the tree. Old Red took off, opening every jump and the other dogs fell in. I looked up the tree; the cat was gone, so I jumped to the conclusion that the dogs must be running the house cat. I ran to head them off with every intention of giving Old Red, particularly, a good whipping, because I knew that he knew better than that. But before I could head them off, a big fox broke out of the weeds across an old field with the pack in full cry close behind. The dogs had been right and I wrong. Evidently the fox had crossed under that tree while we were gone.

Usually a young dog that is started off with experienced dogs loses his taste for other game after a year or so. This is particularly true if the other dogs are already trained. Trained dogs won't follow a rookie with a bum steer and rookies dislike to run alone when others are along.

In the Southern type of foxhunting, gunshyness is no detriment as the foxes are not usually shot. But every so often one runs up against a man-shy dog. My personal advice is to get rid of the dog. He MIGHT be cured, but at best it is a long slow process and not worth the trouble. A good fox dog should also be a good homer—and most of them are.

Among my foxhunting acquaintances are doctors, dentists, lawyers, laborers and so on ad infinitum. Any body can, and often does, own and run fox dogs. So we say—hats off to that great dog—the foxhound!



Wildlife officers and CAA officials set up a command post to supervise air and ground search for two missing fliers believed to have gone down in the Homosassa area.

Commission Officers Aid In Plane Search

Wildlife officers of the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission took time out from their duties of maintaining and operating the Commission's huge wildlife exhibit at the State Fair last month to go on an "errand of mercy."

Twenty officers quickly abandoned their duties at the Fair, after taking part in the Governor's parade, to search for a missing plane believed to have fallen in the dense swamps in the Homosassa area. Aided by several airplanes, the officers, under the direction of Cecil M. Webb, First District commissioner, unsuccessfully combed the swamps for four days in their effort to locate the plane that disappeared after a take-off from St. Petersburg with Miss Beverly Whitfield, Orlando flier, and Edward O. Houde, a flying student, aboard.

Wildlife Officer Ed Gill, of Lakeland, and Pilot A. J. Betterff, of St. Petersburg, narrowly escaped death when their small plane crashed on Dog Island in Chassahowitzka Bay while they were aiding in the search. The plane crashed and burned but both men escaped with nothing more serious than minor cuts and bruises.

The Whitfield plane still remains unreported.

D. B. McLendon, well-known Clermont fisherman, caught the first entry in Lake County's Annual National Fresh Water Bass Tournament. The fish weighed 12 3/4 pounds.

Stiffest Game Penalty In History of Florida Awarded In Duck Case

The stiffest penalty for a game law violation in Florida history was meted out by Judge Dozier A. DeVane in Tallahassee Federal Court last month.

A $1,000 fine was imposed upon V. G. Sangaree, Franklin County Commissioner, for shooting ducks out of season.

Sangaree, an Apalachicola mortician, was also placed on five years probation after pleading guilty to three counts of migratory bird act violations. The three violations were hunting, killing and possessing ducks during the closed season last November.

Sangaree was arrested by game wardens near Apalachicola in Franklin County last November.

Eglin Field Reports Banner Deer Season

Between 1,250 and 1,300 deer were killed during this year's annual hunt on the game-rich Eglin Field Military Reservation, Francis E. Villar, Third District Chief Wildlife Officer reports.

Villar said that more than 200 more deer were killed this year than last year in the hunt which is controlled by U. S. Army officials in cooperation with the game commission.

In spite of the record number of hunters, estimated at more than 4,800, only a few doe deer were killed, Villar said. He credited this record to the five-inch antler law.

Commission To Seek Cane Pole License; Stiffer Game Laws

Director Ben C. Morgan of the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission will ask the 1949 legislature to pass a law requiring Floridians to buy a $1 license for "cane pole" fishing in their home counties.

At present, fishing licenses must be bought only by non-residents, rod and reel fishermen and persons fishing outside their home counties. Pole fishermen can fish free in their own counties.

The law would exempt children under 15 and adults over 65 from buying the fishing licenses. The old-timers would have to be residents of Florida in order to claim the exemption but all children would automatically be exempt.

Morgan estimated the law, if passed, would bring in $500,000 annually. The money would be used for water hyacinth control.

Morgan said that if the county license proposal was rejected he would suggest that part of the tax on gasoline used in boats be devoted to hyacinth control.

"If we don't do something to control water hyacinths, the Florida fisherman will soon be unable to find a place to fish," he said.

Morgan will ask for higher fines for game law violators and a provision giving the Game Commission the right to confiscate hunting equipment used for such serious violations as shooting doe deer, hunting in game preserves and night hunting.

Other bills on the commission's programs to be presented to the legislature would exempt totally disabled war veterans from buying hunting and fishing licenses; require licenses for frog hunting boats and persons who hunt, exhibit or deal in alligators and their skin; and levy a one-cent per pound tax on fresh water fish taken commercially.

One Out of Ten in Nation Bought '48 Fishing License

One out of every ten people in the nation bought a fishing license last year to set a new records of sales with the staggering total of 14,582,739 and a gross license revenue of more than $28,000,000.

According to a recent report from the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, California lead the license sale lineup with 1,374,029, followed in order by Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, New York, Indiana and Missouri.

Two Years Wildlife Progress Reviewed In Biennial Report

An overall summary of Florida's wildlife conservation progress was published in the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission's biennial report for 1947-48, released last month.

The commission reported more progress in the last two years than at any period in its history and said that the Florida conservation program now ranks among the top ten of the nation.

Among the progressive steps taken in the last two years, were a fisheries investigation program, land acquisition for public hunting grounds, uniforming of wildlife officers and the institution of regular courses in modern law enforcement.

More hunting and fishing was done in Florida than ever before in its history according to fishing and hunting license sales. Sales of fishing licenses jumped from 72,000 in 1942-43 to 168,000 in 1946 and 223,000 during the last fiscal year. More than 100,000 hunting licenses were sold in the 1947-48 season and the total was about the same this year.

In the report, the commission estimated that more than 75 per cent of the state's best hunting lands are closed to public hunting, although 2,106,856 acres of public hunting grounds were either purchased, leased or opened by agreement during the past two years.

Commission officials estimated the deer population of Florida at 32,612 and the turkey at 25,779 as of March, 1948. Due to the game management program now in effect, both are gradually increasing, it said.

More than 8,000,000 bream and 1,000,000 bass fingerlings were planted in Florida's lakes and streams during the biennium.

Although the total catch of licensed fishermen jumped from 26,232,418 pounds in 1946-47 to 39,727,258 pounds in 1948, the average reported catch for each fisherman dropped from 179.3 pounds to 151.8 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1948. This was caused, the commission reported, by the greatly increased number of fishermen active in Florida.

A two months closed season on the taking of bass and the 12-inch size limit were eliminated as unnecessary. The total catch of the black bass exceeded that for all other species combined.

Wildlife officers arrested 5,357 persons for game and fish regulation violations. Of these 4,804 were convicted, 453 were acquited and 100 of these cases are still in court.

A white-tailed deer scampers to safety in the Apalachicola National Forest after being released by a Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission officer. The commission recently released 43 in a game management area southeast of Wilma.

Panther, Eagle Afford Thrills at Tampa Fair

Thrills that were real were provided by a game commission panther and eagle when the pair escaped their cages during the Florida State Fair last month.

Just before the commission exhibit opened, Judy, the panther, sprang over her trainer's head when he opened the cage door to feed her.

Judy's escape was announced by screams when she strolled into a building where women on step ladders were putting last-minute touches on the feminine handcraft exhibit. The panther was caught by her owner, Bill Piper, with a net after leading highway patrolmen and fair ground workers a fast ten-minute chase.

The eagle put up a much wilder show than the panther before he succombed to the net of his trainer and fair ground workers. Robert Burns, an attendant, came out of the tussle with a hand injury and numerous minor cuts.

Rep. Sikes Asks Congress For Hunting Permit Funds

Rep. Bob Sikes has asked Congress to return all funds collected from permits issued to hunt the Eglin Field game preserve. At present, this money is being held by order of the U. S. Comptroller General.

These funds, Sikes said, would make it possible for the Air Force to put through a proposed restocking and conservation program at Eglin Field.

Out-of-State Fish License Sales Soar

A 42 per cent jump in sales of non-resident fishing licenses during the first half of the 1948-49 fiscal year indicates northern anglers are acquiring a taste for Florida fishing, Ben C. Morgan, Director of the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission said last month.

Out-of-state Fishermen bought 35,908 licenses from July through December last year—the largest number ever recorded for a similar period. This is compared to 25,305 for the last half of 1947. Resident license sales jumped to 144,213 which was 28,405 over the half year total for 1947.

Morgan said total sales of fishing licenses were up 26 per cent and that even a greater increase was expected by June 30, the end of the license year.

Deer and Turkey Biologist Assigned to Palm Beach Area

Biologist F. W. Stanberry has been appointed to head a deer and turkey restoration program on the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission's 50,000 acre game management area in Palm Beach County.

Stanberry is a graduate of the University of Florida, and has been doing deer and turkey research on a private hunting preserve in North Carolina.

Chief Wildlife Biologist O. Earl Frye said Stanberry would be stationed at Indiantown.

Wildlife officers of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission take part in the Governor's Parade at the Florida State Fair.

License Sales Drop But Revenues Soar, Federal Report Says

Hunting licenses sold in the 48 states during the fiscal year ending last June 30 were down in number but the revenue was up, Albert M. Day, Director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, reported this month.

Hunters paid $29,814,327 in fees for 11,391,810 licenses during the 1947-48 shooting season. Compared with the preceding year, license sales declined 674,953 from a high of 12,066,763 but fees jumped $1,255,880 from the previous total of $28,558,447.

The revenue received for 1947-48—the largest ever recorded—was the result of increased hunting pressure in a number of states plus increased fees. The gross total included such items as big game permits, special area permits, and deer tags, which may be required in addition to the regular license fees.

Pennsylvania was high state in number of licenses sold with 847,559 while Michigan, runner up with 819,406, brought in the most revenue, $2,688,573, due to a higher license fee. Florida ranked 36th in number of licenses sold with 100,791 and stood 26th in the revenue return department with $459,332.50.

Non-resident hunting licenses declined from 393,548 in 1946-47 to 180,952 in 1947-48. Pennsylvania headed the list with 28,012 out-of-state licenses. Florida with 1,504 ranked 32nd.

The sale of migratory-bird stamps, commonly called "duck stamps," declined in 1947-48 to 1,722,677, a drop of 294,142 from 1946-47 when the sale of 2,016,819 of these stamps broke all previous records.

Commission Wants Broward Lands for Fish, Game Refuge

The State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission has filed application for 13,742 acres of land in Broward County for use as a wildlife preserve and public hunting range.

The application was filed with the Federal Land Bank and the War Assets Administration through the State Improvement Commission.

Director Ben C. Morgan of the State Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission said the area, formerly a U. S. Naval Air Gunnery School about four miles east of Hollywood, Fla., is best suited for duck hunting. Higher portions of the range will be used for hunting dove, deer and quail.

Morgan said present plans call for the area to be closed to hunting of frogs and alligators for four years in order to increase their population. About 5,000 acres west of the Snake River Canal will be set aside as a refuge for duck and deer.

The land was applied for under provisions of the Burke-Wherry Act which made deactivated military installations available to states for use as hunting lands and wildlife preserves.

Kissimmee Sportsmen Elect Anderson to Lead Club in '49

Harry C. Anderson was elected president of Kissimmee Sportsman Association for 1949 at the annual meeting last month. He succeeds Newton Morris.

Other officers elected were Steve Neher, Fred Engle, and Cy Reynolds, vice presidents; H. L. Yonce, treasurer; Dan Autrey, secretary, and Tom Skinhead, James Earle Lupfer, Jr., and Dick Makinson, directors.

RUNNING SORES . . .

(Continued from Page 15)

phasized that such states get ahead because they have good and adequate laws, and aggressive boards or individuals enforcing them. One of the greatest weaknesses of the various interstate compacts is their lack of authority.

Industry has found many ways to make a profit from, or to utilize, its wastes. And in many laboratories, new ways to abate pollution or turn wastes into money-making by-products are being sought. Sportsmen often do not realize this and antagonize the very industries, in many cases, which are working hardest on the problem.

I think the attitude of industry today toward the pollution abatement was accurate summarized by Dr. Mark E. Putnam, vice-president of the Dow Chemical Company at Midland, Michigan, in a frank talk to the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Dr. Putnam said that industrial pollution is a problem that should be met by the top management only, and added:

"Since our inland waterways are deemed public property, we cannot escape the conclusion that when, by any act of ours, we damage the water or render it less fit for use by other members of the public, we are taking undue advantage of our own rights as a corporate citizen. Industrial management has special reason to be concerned with its public and community relations so far as pollution is concerned because of the increasing activeness of special-interest groups. Sportsman's organizations are typical. They have the ability—and have in many cases shown symptoms—of regimenting public opinion against us. They are not to be ignored. I am not condemning them. We simply happen to be sitting on opposite sides of a stream over which we can either scream at each other like schoolboys, or meet as reasonable men and arrive at a mutual understanding of, and solution to, our divergent problems. If we adopt the former course, or simply prefer to ignore them, we shall only hasten their metamorphosis into definite 'pressure' groups campaigning for more stringent legislation or more rigid enforcement of existing laws.

"I think most of us in industry would far rather meet our problems voluntarily than by enforced regulations. If we are interested in applying this principle to our stream-pollution problems we had better be about it."

In this series, we have referred to streams as running sores on our land. They are that. It is time for us to heal them. The scars will remain, for many years, but the national body will be sound again.

GREEN

America's Favorite Color

Every year, more than 2,000,000 people visit Florida's forests for recreation.

Many thousands of vacationing Americans visit our forest each year to play, hunt, fish, study and enjoy the beauty of nature. Yet year after year wild fires are depriving these people of the use of five million acres which could be green and growing forest.

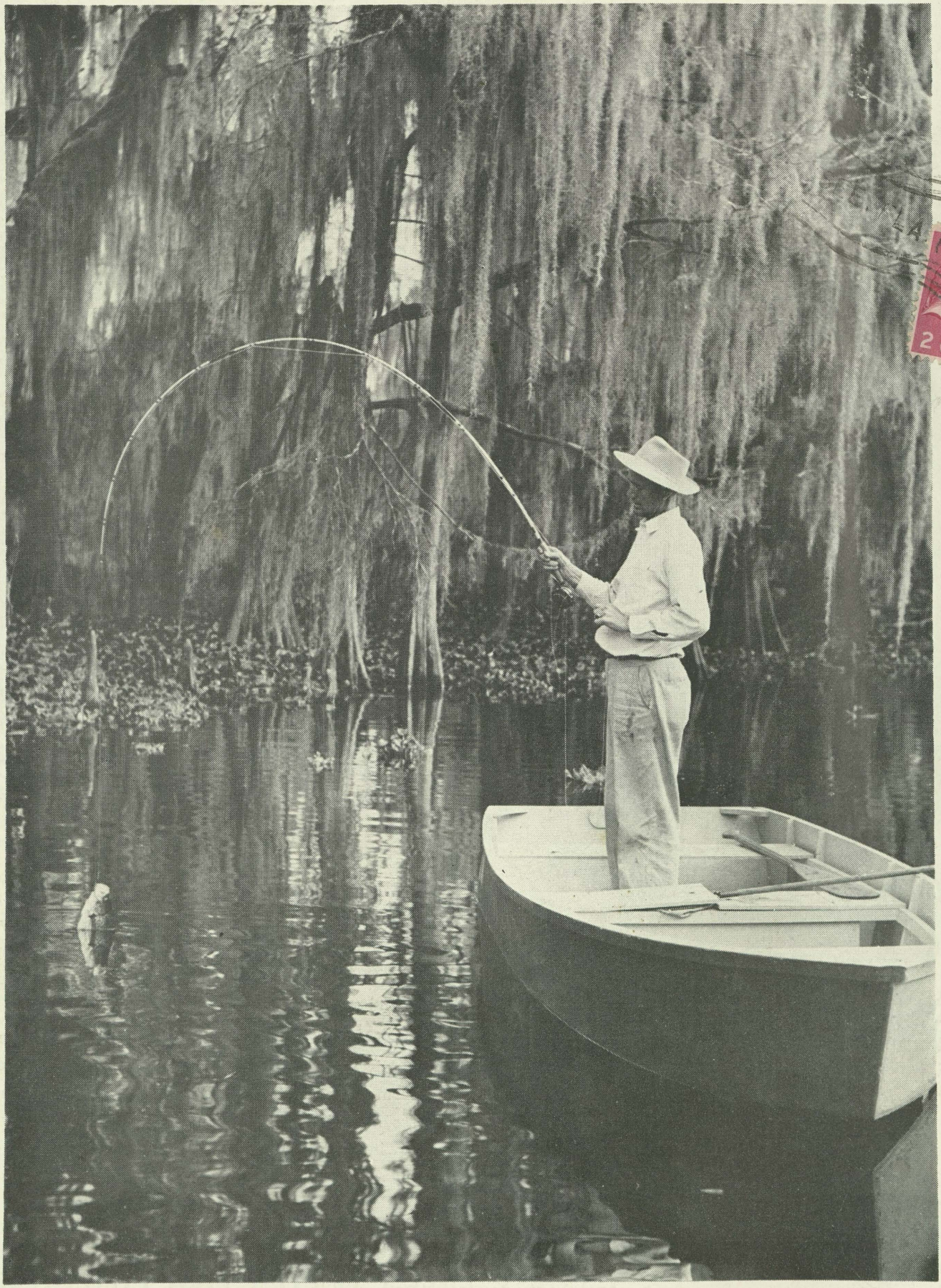
Trees are damaged and destroyed, fish and game are killed or driven away, water supplies are decreased and the soil is harmed wherever forest fires occur. Do your part to keep fires out of our forests and Keep Florida's favorite color growing—GREEN.

PREVENT WILD FIRES — Keep FLORIDA GREEN — GROW MORE TREES

FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE

GAME & FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

The Library
State Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida



. . . FLY-FISHING ON ORANGE LAKE